St Peter's Brafferton
C of E (VA) Primary School

Let your light shine!

At St Peter's Brafferton, we are a nurturing community where every person can **flourish.** We aspire to be the best in all we do, promoting **lifelong learners** who are curious, compassionate, and courageous. We **value** every person and every opportunity to **'let our light shine'**.

> *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*
> — Matthew 5:16

Self-Harm Policy

Self-Harm Policy	St Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary School	
Document Status	Version 1.0	
Date of next review	Sept 2027	Responsibility: S. Anderson Committee: Vision and Values
Success Criteria for review completion	Edited by Headteacher Shared with Committee Ratified by FGB Shared with staff	Responsibility: S. Anderson Chair: Kevin Lucas
Date of Policy Creation	5.9.26	Responsibility: S. Anderson
Date of Policy Adoption by Governing Body	15.9.26	
Method of Communication (e.g. Website, etc.)	Teams, website	

1. Introduction and Context

1.1 Recent research indicates that up to one in ten young people in the UK engage in self-harming behaviours, and that this figure is higher amongst specific populations, including young people with special educational needs. School staff can play an important role in preventing self-harm, building resilience and supporting pupils, peers and parents of pupils currently engaging in self-harm.

2. Purpose

2.1 This document is a policy for staff working in this school who may be supporting pupils who self-harm.

3. Aims

3.1 To adhere to the NYC Self-Harm Guidance protocol.

3.2 To develop outstanding practice within this school to help and support pupils who self-harm.

4. Definition of Self-Harm

4.1 Self-harm is any behaviour where the intent is to deliberately cause harm to one's own body.

5. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body

5.1 The governing body has the legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of their pupils. There may be a nominated governor who has responsibility for safeguarding who will have an oversight for provision for pupils who self-harm.

The Headteacher

5.2 The Headteacher has responsibility for establishing effective safeguarding procedures with regard to self-harm, thereby ensuring the duty of care of pupils and staff.

Staff

5.3 Pupils may choose to confide in any member of school staff if they are concerned about their own welfare, or that of a peer.

Referral procedures are:

- Staff member logs behaviours/incidents on CPOMs
- Followed up with Headteacher/DSL
- Parents informed
- Referrals made to NY Early Help or if in immediate danger calls made to 999 (urgent care)

5.4 This includes all staff being aware of the North Yorkshire pathway of support for children and young people who deliberately self-harm.

6. Training

6.1 Schools are recommended to access training regularly on self-harm. Staff giving support to pupils who self-harm may experience all sorts of reactions to this behaviour in pupils (e.g. anger, helplessness, rejection); it is helpful for staff to have an opportunity to talk this through with work colleagues or senior management.

6.2 Staff taking this role should take the opportunity to attend training days on self-harm or obtain relevant literature. Induction procedures for all staff, outlined below, will include training on Self-Harm, Child Protection procedures and setting boundaries around Confidentiality.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

7.1 The designated governor who has responsibility for safeguarding will monitor the systems yearly and following any incident of self-harm.

Reviewed/monitored by: Full Governing Body

Date adopted: September 2026

Next review: September 2027

Review Cycle: Annually